

hearing on "Major Internal Challenges Facing the Chinese Leadership"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7193. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, the Mentor-Protégé Program annual report for fiscal year 2005; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7194. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), transmitting, pursuant to law, a report entitled "Department of Defense (DoD) Report to Congress on Recommendations in the National Research Council Assessment of DoD Basic Research"; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7195. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General Henry P. Osman, United States Marine Corps, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7196. A communication from the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), transmitting, a report on the approved retirement of Lieutenant General George P. Taylor, Jr., United States Air Force, and his advancement to the grade of lieutenant general on the retired list; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7197. A communication from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Radio Frequency Identification" ((RIN0750-AF31)(DFARS Case 2006-DO02)) received on June 7, 2006; to the Committee on Armed Services.

EC-7198. A communication from the Deputy Secretary, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, a report relative to the Government Accountability Office, the Department of Education, and the violation of the Antideficiency Act; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7199. A communication from the Co-Chairs of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Initiative, Business-Higher Education Forum, transmitting, a report entitled "Securing America's Leadership in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics"; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7200. A communication from the Director, Office of Standards, Regulations and Variances, Mine Safety and Health Administration, Department of Labor, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Diesel Particulate Matter Exposure of Underground Metal and Nonmetal Miners" (RIN1219-AB29) received on June 5, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7201. A communication from the Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the Corporation's report on the amount of acquisitions made by the agency from entities that manufacture the articles, materials, or supplies outside of the United States in fiscal year 2005; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7202. A communication from the Deputy Executive Director, Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Benefits Payable in Terminated Single-Employer Plans; Allocation of Assets in Single-Employer Plans; Interest Assumptions for Valuing and Paying Benefits" (29 CFR Parts 4022 and 4044) received on June 5, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

EC-7203. A communication from the Assistant General Counsel for Regulations, Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, transmitting, pursuant to law, the report of a rule entitled "Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects and Centers Program—Disability and Rehabilitation Research Projects—National Data and Statistical Center for the Spinal Cord Injury Model Systems and the National Data Statistical Center for the Traumatic Brain Injury Model Systems" received on June 12, 2006; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

The following reports of committees were submitted:

By Mr. INHOFE, from the Committee on Environment and Public Works, without amendment:

S. 1509. A bill to amend the Lacey Act Amendments of 1981 to add non-human primates to the definition of prohibited wildlife species (Rept. No. 109-263).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

The following bills and joint resolutions were introduced, read the first and second times by unanimous consent, and referred as indicated:

By Mr. TALENT (for himself, Mr. MARTINEZ, Mr. ISAKSON, and Mr. CHAMBLISS):

S. 3535. A bill to modernize and update the National Housing Act and to enable the Federal Housing Administration to use risk based pricing to more effectively reach underserved borrowers, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3536. A bill to ensure oversight of intelligence on Iran, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. WYDEN:

S. Res. 515. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate on the continued presence of United States troops in Iraq until at least 2009; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. OBAMA (for himself, Mr. FRIST, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. REID, and Mr. BROWNBACK):

S. Res. 516. A resolution recognizing the historical significance of Juneteenth Independence Day and expressing the sense of the Senate that history should be regarded as a means for understanding the past and solving the challenges of the future; considered and agreed to.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 424

At the request of Mr. BOND, the name of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 424, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to provide for arthritis research and public health, and for other purposes.

S. 635

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. DEMINT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 635, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to improve the benefits under the medicare program for beneficiaries with kidney disease, and for other purposes.

S. 965

At the request of Mr. SMITH, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 965, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to reduce the recognition period for built-in gains for subchapter S corporations.

S. 1035

At the request of Mr. INHOFE, the names of the Senator from Wyoming (Mr. ENZI) and the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN) were added as cosponsors of S. 1035, a bill to authorize the presentation of commemorative medals on behalf of Congress to Native Americans who served as Code Talkers during foreign conflicts in which the United States was involved during the 20th century in recognition of the service of those Native Americans to the United States.

S. 1171

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. MENENDEZ) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1171, a bill to halt Saudi support for institutions that fund, train, incite, encourage, or in any other way aid and abet terrorism, and to secure full Saudi cooperation in the investigation of terrorist incidents, and for other purposes.

S. 1462

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1462, a bill to promote peace and accountability in Sudan, and for other purposes.

S. 1896

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. ENSIGN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1896, a bill to permit access to Federal crime information databases by educational agencies for certain purposes.

S. 1930

At the request of Mr. REID, the name of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1930, a bill to expand the research, prevention, and awareness activities of the National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention with respect to inflammatory bowel disease.

S. 1998

At the request of Mr. CONRAD, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 1998, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to enhance protections relating to the reputation and meaning of the Medal of Honor and other military decorations and awards, and for other purposes.

S. 2125

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the names of the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON) were added as cosponsors of S. 2125, a bill to promote relief, security, and democracy in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

S. 2140

At the request of Mr. HATCH, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr. CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2140, a bill to enhance protection of children from sexual exploitation by strengthening section 2257 of title 18, United States Code, requiring producers of sexually explicit material to keep and permit inspection of records regarding the age of performers, and for other purposes.

S. 2250

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the name of the Senator from Illinois (Mr. OBAMA) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2250, a bill to award a congressional gold medal to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug.

S. 2278

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2278, a bill to amend the Public Health Service Act to improve the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of heart disease, stroke, and other cardiovascular diseases in women.

S. 2342

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the name of the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2342, a bill to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to deliver a meaningful benefit and lower prescription drug prices under the Medicare program.

S. 2435

At the request of Mr. LUGAR, the names of the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. COLEMAN) and the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) were added as cosponsors of S. 2435, a bill to increase cooperation on energy issues between the United States Government and foreign governments and entities in order to secure the strategic and economic interests of the United States, and for other purposes.

S. 2599

At the request of Mr. VITTER, the name of the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2599, a bill to amend the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act to prohibit the confiscation of firearms during certain national emergencies.

S. 2616

At the request of Mr. SANTORUM, the name of the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2616, a bill to amend the Surface Mining Control and Reclamation Act of 1977 and the Mineral Leasing Act to improve surface mining control and reclamation, and for other purposes.

S. 2617

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from Florida

(Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 2617, a bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to limit increases in the costs to retired members of the Armed Forces of health care services under the TRICARE program, and for other purposes.

S. 3061

At the request of Mr. TALENT, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3061, a bill to extend the patent term for the badge of the American Legion Women's Auxiliary, and for other purposes.

S. 3062

At the request of Mr. TALENT, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3062, a bill to extend the patent term for the badge of the American Legion, and for other purposes.

S. 3063

At the request of Mr. TALENT, the name of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3063, a bill to extend the patent term for the badge of the Sons of the American Legion, and for other purposes.

S. 3069

At the request of Mr. DODD, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) were added as cosponsors of S. 3069, a bill to amend section 2306 of title 38, United States Code, to modify the furnishing of government markers for graves of veterans at private ceremonies, and for other purposes.

S. 3513

At the request of Mr. BUNNING, the name of the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 3513, a bill to amend the National Trails System Act to extend the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail to include additional sites associated with the preparation or return phase of the Lewis Clark expedition, and for other purposes.

S. 3521

At the request of Mr. GREGG, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from New Hampshire (Mr. SUNUNU) were added as cosponsors of S. 3521, a bill to establish a new budget process to create a comprehensive plan to rein in spending, reduce the deficit, and regain control of the Federal budget process.

S.J. RES. 38

At the request of Mr. MCCONNELL, the name of the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS) was added as a cosponsor of S.J. Res. 38, a joint resolution approving the renewal of import restrictions contained in the Burmese Freedom and Democracy Act of 2003, and for other purposes.

S. CON. RES. 42

At the request of Mr. OBAMA, the name of the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 42, a concurrent resolution

recognizing the historical significance of the Juneteenth Independence Day, and expressing the sense of Congress that history should be regarded as a means for understanding the past and solving the challenges of the future.

S. CON. RES. 96

At the request of Mr. BROWNBACK, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. ALLARD) was added as a cosponsor of S. Con. Res. 96, a concurrent resolution to commemorate, celebrate, and reaffirm the national motto of the United States on the 50th anniversary of its formal adoption.

S. RES. 383

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the name of the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. CHAFEE) was added as a cosponsor of S. Res. 383, a resolution calling on the President to take immediate steps to help improve the security situation in Darfur, Sudan, with an emphasis on civilian protection.

S. RES. 405

At the request of Mr. HAGEL, the names of the Senator from Alabama (Mr. SESSIONS) and the Senator from Georgia (Mr. ISAKSON) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 405, a resolution designating August 16, 2006, as "National Airborne Day".

S. RES. 507

At the request of Mr. BIDEN, the names of the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. INHOFE) and the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 507, a resolution designating the week of November 5 through November 11, 2006, as "National Veterans Awareness Week" to emphasize the need to develop educational programs regarding the contributions of veterans to the country.

AMENDMENT NO. 4256

At the request of Mr. FEINGOLD, the names of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4256 proposed to S. 2766, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4259

At the request of Ms. STABENOW, the names of the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN) were added as cosponsors of amendment No. 4259 intended to be proposed to S. 2766, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4261

At the request of Mr. CHAMBLISS, the names of the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from Texas (Mrs. HUTCHISON), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS) and the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. NELSON) were added as co-sponsors of amendment No. 4261 intended to be proposed to S. 2766, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4288

At the request of Ms. CANTWELL, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a co-sponsor of amendment No. 4288 intended to be proposed to S. 2766, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

AMENDMENT NO. 4309

At the request of Mr. SCHUMER, the name of the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) was added as a co-sponsor of amendment No. 4309 intended to be proposed to S. 2766, an original bill to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2007 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe personnel strengths for such fiscal year for the Armed Forces, and for other purposes.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. REID (for himself, Mr. BIDEN, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. DURBIN):

S. 3536. A bill to ensure oversight of intelligence on Iran, and for other purposes; to the Select Committee on Intelligence.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we live in a dangerous time, and that is an understatement. The threats to our freedom are many. They range from terrorist attacks such as those that hit our shores on 9/11 to rogue nations with nuclear ambitions such as North Korea and Iran.

It is important that we, as a country, address each of these threats. Recent history is rife with examples of what happens if we fail to do so. The threats don't go away; they only get worse.

This is a fact we can see in today's headlines about North Korea's new missile tests—they have not fired a missile since 1998; and from all reports

we have been able to pick up on the news, they are now fueling another missile just prior to launch—and also in Iran, where efforts to halt the country's nuclear program have been delayed and complicated by the administration's, I believe, failures in Iraq.

This weekend, the Washington Post reported that top Bush administration officials ignored an offer from Iran in 2003, when American leverage in the region was at its height. The offer from Iran was to curtail its nuclear activities. This is very troubling.

Paul Pillar, the former head of Middle East analysis for the intelligence community, said that the U.S. position regarding Iran is "inherently weaker now" because of Iraq, and that "there have been a lot of lost opportunities." One expert analyst said the administration's mismanagement "strengthened the hands of those in Iran who believe the only way to compel the United States to talk or deal with Iran is not by sending peace offers but by being a nuisance."

Today, I am introducing legislation which would improve Congress's oversight of the administration's efforts on Iran—the Iran Intelligence Oversight Act. The legislation will ensure that Congress is fully engaged in the Iran debate, and it will also push the Bush White House to develop and implement the right policy for dealing with Iran.

All of us are painfully aware of this Congress's unwillingness to hold this administration accountable for its mistakes and misjudgments. There has been virtually no oversight on anything.

I have said before that there has been a lack of a legislative branch of Government. The executive exists, the judicial branch exists, but the Founding Fathers' view to have three separate but equal branches of Government has not been in existence for the last 5½ years. The reason the President has not had to veto a single bill is he has gotten anything he wants from this Republican Congress.

The Senate Intelligence Committee has led the way in terms of stonewalling and rubber-stamping the Bush administration. Nearly 3 years into its investigation of the White House's politicization of Iraq intelligence, we still don't have a report.

Unfortunately, the committee record on Iran is not any better.

U.S. News and World Report had a quote earlier this spring from the committee's chairman, saying:

[W]e have not made the progress on our oversight of Iran intelligence, which is critical.

U.S. News further said the panel had done only piecemeal scrutiny of the spy agencies' work on Iran, quoting a Republican staffer as saying:

There is no organized committee staff effort to look at Iran right now. . . . It's all sort of on hold.

That is really too bad.

Perhaps Tehran will be kind enough to wait for them, but the Senate should

not. The Senate must be engaged as we move our diplomacy forward with Iran. We must take seriously our responsibility to insist on a thorough review of the facts, a full debate of the threat, and full consultation as events move forward.

The legislation I am introducing today would put in place the rigorous oversight necessary to hold the administration accountable for its rhetoric and its all too frequent tendency to spin and distort the facts.

The act requires the administration to give Congress and the American people solid answers to three questions.

First, what is the judgment of the Government's professional intelligence analysts about the threat of Iran, and what tools are most likely to influence the Iranians to change their ways?

Second, what are the President's policy objectives with Iran, and what is his strategy for achieving these objectives?

Currently, we are only left to guess.

To the best of my knowledge, Congress has not yet been briefed on any of the key details of the deal offered to Iran a few weeks ago. The Iranians have been briefed, the Europeans have been briefed, the Russians have been briefed, the Chinese have been briefed—but not the U.S. Senate.

Congress needs to be in on the take-off, not asked to board the plane for the crash landing.

Third, this legislation asks the question: What is the process for making sure that senior administration officials do not publicly mischaracterize the evidence and the challenge of Iran?

Much of what we heard from the administration in the run-up to Iraq about mushroom clouds, yellow cake, and aluminum tubes turned out to be overstated or based on intelligence that was known to be very, very suspect.

I am told that the most famous of the Vice President's speeches on Iraq—the August 2002 VFW speech that set the rush to war and dramatically overstated the threat from Iraq—was never even cleared by the intelligence community.

With my legislation in place, and with vigilance from Congress, we will be one step closer to ensuring this kind of misleading information does not happen regarding the threat posed by Iran.

I want to be clear: President Bush must take seriously the challenge of Iran, as I know he does, but the way to success will be a policy based on the facts. Under my legislation, the administration will be held accountable for anything less.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the text of the bill be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the text of the bill was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

S. 3536

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,